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PATENT

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Application of	:	Customer Number: 20277
	:	
Hiroyuki MATSUO, et al.	:	Confirmation Number: 1520
	:	
Application No.: 09/977,487	:	Group Art Unit: 2675
	:	
Filed: October 16, 2001	:	Examiner: A.A. Awad
	:	
For: ELECTRONIC PAPER FILE	:	

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**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

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Dear Sir:

In accordance with the provisions of 37 C.F.R. 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the documents listed on the attached form PTO-1449. It is respectfully requested that the documents be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the documents be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed more than three months after the U.S. filing date AND after the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits, but before the mailing date of a Final Rejection or Notice of Allowance.

**CERTIFICATION PARAGRAPH**

The undersigned certifies that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a

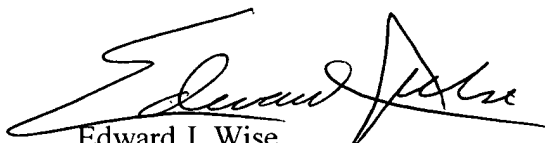
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counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement as described in 37 CFR 1.97(e)(1).

Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account 500417 and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,

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**Date: October 28, 2004**



SHEET 1 OF 1

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE  
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(PTO-1449)

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50023-156SERIAL NO.  
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Hiroyuki MATSUO, et al.

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FILING DATE  
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## U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER'S INITIALS	CITE NO.	Document Number Number-Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
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## FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER'S INITIALS	CITE NO.	Foreign Patent Document Country Codes-Number 4-Kind Codes (if known)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines Where Relevant Figures Appear	Translation	
						Yes	No
		JP 04-355786	12/09/92	Hitachi Ltd.		X	

## OTHER ART (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

EXAMINER'S INITIALS	CITE NO.	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	

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